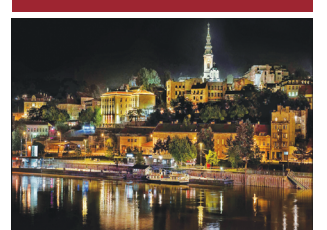



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University of Puget Sound *searches for* new CHWS Director

By Christina Conry and Aidan Regan

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

In August 2018, Counseling, Health and Wellness Services (CHWS) Director Donn Marshall retired after a successful career at the University of Puget Sound.

"I retired from Puget Sound after over 30 years for lots of reasons — opportunities to step away from the daily demands of a challenging position, opportunities to read and play music, to travel more flexibly, and opportunities to devote more time to working on suicide-prevention efforts by working with statewide initiatives," Marshall said.

Left with a position to fill, a search committee comprised of Puget Sound students and staff has been hard at work. The committee brought candidates for the position to campus. Each held an open session where campus community members could come and meet them.

"Individuals who attend this open session will be able to provide feedback to the committee to aid in the decision-making process. The final hiring

decision will be made by Uchenna Baker, Dean of Students; and Kristine Bartanen, Provost," CHWS Associate Director Libby Baldwin said.

Those who attended were sent an online survey to rate a list of qualities pertaining to the candidate of their choice. Such qualities included professional demeanor, readiness for the leadership responsibilities of the position and ability to implement innovative approaches. The survey also asked attendees to share observations of the candidate's strengths and any significant concerns or pending questions about the candidate.

At each session, the candidate answered the prompt "In the context of a small liberal arts institution, please share what you believe to be the top three issues surrounding student wellness, and your approach to deal with those issues."

(Continued on page 3...)

Budget Task Force holds open session for the campus community

By Kylie Gurewitz

The Budget Task Force (BTF) is a committee of University of Puget Sound faculty, students and staff who work to create a balanced budget recommendation each academic year.

This academic year's BTF includes Chair and Provost Kris Bartanen, Professor of Politics and Government Alisa Kessel, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Sherry Mondou, Professor of Classics Eric Orlin, Human Resources Manager Erin Ruff, Director of University Relations and Information Services Sean Vincent, junior Erin Lungwitz and junior Matthew Bell. Janet Hallman provides the BTF with support regarding information and modeling, and Lori Johnson also supports the BTF with logistics. On Wednesday, Nov. 14, the BTF held an open session on campus to explain their work and take questions and comments from the campus community.

The BTF works to allocate the "unrestricted budget." This includes funding that comes from net tuition, unrestricted gifts and unrestricted endowment distributions. This budget does not include gifts, grants, endowment distributions subject to donor use restrictions, funds that have been previously designated for specific purposes and donor gifts/university reserves for major capital projects such as the welcome center. The unrestricted operating budget for this academic year is \$125 million dollars.

In September, the BTF orients new members. In October and November, the BTF hears from President Crawford

and student leaders and committees. They also hold campus open sessions and invite written suggestions from campus members. In December, the BTF deliberates by modeling different scenarios to finalize their recommendation. In January, they present the balanced budget recommendation to President Crawford, the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS), faculty and staff senate and send it out to campus via email. In February, President Crawford makes his recommendation to the Board of Trustees.

The BTF outlines some of the challenges in the current economic landscape of higher education. The amount of high school graduates in the United States is declining and is projected to continue to decline through 2030, according to the Huffington Post. These graduates are also more diverse and are more likely to be the first in their family to go to college. This means that less of these students are likely to have the means of attending a residential liberal arts college such as the University of Puget Sound. Students are often more focused on finding an affordable college. It also means that students who are attending these colleges now are often more diverse, in terms of race as well as socioeconomic status.

For the University of Puget Sound, some of the issues of this current landscape have been apparent through lower enrollment rates and lower retention rates. The current sophomore class was under-enrolled compared to budget

and also had a lower retention rate this fall, which led to a loss of revenue for the University.

Since 2009, the University of Puget Sound has seen steady net tuition revenue growth until last academic year when it decreased by approximately 2.5 percent. The current first-year class has exceeded the enrollment head count goals of the University while also requiring greater financial aid than anticipated in the budget.

Though enrollment has been declining, with 250 fewer undergraduate students in 2018 than in 2011, the strategic plan envisions enrollment around 2,800 (compared to current 2,600), with a growth in graduate programs.

The main principles that the BTF uses in decision-making are centrality to Puget Sound's mission and core values, preservation of a quality educational experience, competitiveness in the market of higher education, adherence to the goals of the strategic plan, innovative deployment of resources, expectations of maximum operative efficiency and effectiveness, keeping expenditure levels within available revenues and responsive to the economic climate, and creating a balanced budget with long-term goals.

In addition to this open session, the BTF invites members of the campus community to send in written suggestions regarding the budget. To contact the BTF directly, send an email to ljohnson@pugetsound.edu.

100 years after the influenza pandemic, Professor Nancy Bristow spreads awareness about dealing with traumatic events

By Sofia Vazquez

In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 1918 influenza pandemic, University of Puget Sound history professor Nancy K. Bristow gave a talk in the Wheelock Student Center to spread awareness about dealing with traumatic events.

In March 2012, Bristow published a book titled “American Pandemic: The Lost Worlds of the 1918 Influenza Epidemic.” Her inspiration for this book was the story of her great-grandparents, who died of sickness four days apart from each other and left her grandfather an orphan. Bristow’s goal is “to get out into the public through the voices of communities whose stories hadn’t been told yet,” she said.

Just like Bristow’s grandfather, many people around the world and in the U.S. died of influenza in 1918. In the U.S., 25 percent to 40 percent of the population was infected, most of which were people between the ages 20 to 40. However, their stories, along with the worldwide record of casualties, are not known.

This pandemic was overshadowed by World War I and wasn’t getting the attention it deserved because “it didn’t fit the narrative of progress,” Bristow said.

“It was during this time that public health and biotechnology emerged, making people believe that they didn’t have to worry about diseases anymore for they had been ‘domesticated,’” Bristow said. People were already very worried about what was going on with the war. The knowledge of a pandemic could create even more panic than there already was.

After WWI, many people tried to move on from its horrors. Those who died from the pandemic were grouped in with those who died in the war.

“Associating those who simply died of influenza with those who were dying in the war just made people feel a little better about the losses ... made them almost make some kind of sense,” Bristow said.

In her talk, she explained how “many countries worldwide were not keeping public health statistics ... so they had dramatically undercounted because they had neglected whole continents.”

Many people around the world decided to focus on WWI or their own situations, which is why people today don’t know how many people were affected. This is also the reason why the global number of casualties during this pandemic

isn’t known.

So many people were dying that their relatives couldn’t hold a proper funeral for them, and many bodies were buried in mass graves. Once someone died of influenza, people wanted the body to be underground as quickly as possible to prevent the disease from spreading.

“Right now everyone is interested and concerned about people whose homes are being burned in California. In two months, the nation would have moved on and those families will still, perhaps, have lost their homes. People would have lost loved ones and no one will be talking or thinking about it,” Bristow said.

“People need to gain empathy for the trauma that is often going on among us,” Bristow explained. The goal of the talk was not only to inform people about the events that happened during the pandemic, but also to get people today to talk, listen and genuinely care about what is going on around them. Bristow encourages people to be there every step of the way to recovery for people that are suffering. This way communities can become better places.

Student Integrity Code getting first update in 24 years

By Julia Schiff

For the first time in 24 years, Puget Sound’s student integrity code is being updated. The process of updating the code has been going on for about a year and a half. The code won’t fully be finished until the new code is published, hopefully in August 2019. Updating the code has involved student surveys, focus groups and discussions in senate meetings and committees.

The process is ongoing and as of now there is a draft circulating. The administration has shared the draft during open review sessions and senate meetings, though it is not currently accessible online and students are not allowed to keep the drafts.

Changes in the code are geared towards increasing transparency. The draft is much more specific, laying out details and examples of conduct violations. The new draft also splits the conduct code and the procedures process into two separate documents. This was done in order to strengthen organization and make amending the documents more efficient.

A new appellate process is also featured in the draft. Students who may face charges of suspension or expulsion will potentially be able to appeal their cases twice. This second round of appeals only applies to cases of suspension or expulsion and not to more minor offenses.

The draft also mandates that the code must be reviewed annually, so as not to go another 24 years without an update.

Puget Sound’s Associate Dean of Students Sarah Comstock and the Director of Student Conduct Jessica Pense have been working on the draft. Pense was hired in 2017 and the updating process began shortly after her arrival. Administrative changes, specifically the update in Puget Sound’s sexual misconduct policy, encouraged Comstock and Pense to update the code.

“Transparency was not there and clarity was not there,” Pense said about the code. “The conduct process is not meant to hide things from the students; it should be a transparent



Photo pictures Puget Sound students at the open review session



Photo pictures ASUPS leaders at the open review session
PHOTO CREDITS TO AUGUSTA GRASSLI

process.” Both Pense and Comstock were assertive in saying that the code is meant to serve and benefit the students.

“This is not our code; this is your code,” Comstock said, touching on the importance of student participation in working with the draft. “I love to hear the student voice,” Comstock said.

Pense and Comstock demonstrate a willingness to engage

with students. Many of the student meetings were followed by question and suggestion time, where students commented on the draft and suggested changes. During the meetings, Pense and Comstock were open to student suggestions.

“Jess and I have very thick skins; we know that this is not a perfect document,” Comstock said.

Many critiques of the document centered around subsection 2a, which detailed how disruption of functions of the University could be sanctioned. Though not originally intended to apply to protests, students saw this subsection as limiting their right to expression. The concern is that students could be punished for participating in activism or protests on campus.

“I know historically our campus has not been great with student protest,” Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS) Senator Kelly Johnson said.

“Obviously I have the UPS 3 in my head while reading this document because I don’t agree with how that was approached,” Johnson said.

The UPS 3 refers to three students of color were suspended from campus after protesting. They allegedly posted lists around campus with names of people they believed to be bigoted, to protest sexism, racism and homophobia.

“The way in which that case was approached by the university in accordance with the student integrity code is a huge part of the whole conversation of the document,” Johnson said.

Johnson stressed that this is a chance for students to engage in a critical type of activism. “It is an incredible opportunity to make significant changes and advocate for marginalized students,” Johnson said.

“Those students’ voices weren’t heard in the way that they needed to be,” Johnson added. The process of updating the code is a moment for students to advocate and for the administration to listen.

SECURITY UPDATES

This is an ASUPS Media Publication

The following is a summary of incidents reported to Security Services, occurring on-campus between November 13, 2018 and November 26, 2018:

- A visitor reported their vehicle was broken into while it was parked in the Fieldhouse parking lot. Personal items left on the front seat were stolen.

- The use of a vape pen in Todd-Phibbs Hall activated the building fire alarm.
- A student reported they were inappropriately touched by another fan (whom they could identify) during a basketball in the Fieldhouse. The university is investigating.
- A student reported their bicycle was stolen

from their university residence on Union Ave. The bike was secured with a cable lock.

- Security staff responded to several complaints of malicious writing on campus walls and fixtures. Bathrooms in the Science Center and Wheelock Student Center were tagged with various markings.
- Security responded to complaint of

cannabis smell in Harrington Hall.

Crime Prevention
Crime prevention is a community responsibility. Please do your part to keep the campus safe. Security staff are on duty 24/7 and are available to assist you.

THE PUGET SOUND TRAIL

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The Trail is an independent, student-run organization funded by ASUPS. *The Trail* seeks to produce a credible weekly newspaper that serves as a comprehensive source of information relevant to its readership. *The Trail* acts as an archival record for the university, serves as a link between University of Puget Sound and the greater Tacoma community and provides an open forum for student opinion and discourse.

Visit trail.pugetsound.edu for the full mission statement.

Puget Sound searches for new CHWS director

(Continued from page 1...)

The Search Advisory Committee held the first open session on Friday, Nov. 9 for Dr. Kuldhir S. Bhati. Bhati is a psychologist certified in Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT). According to WebMD, DBT is a method of psychotherapy meant to change negative thinking patterns and foster positive behavioral changes.

Bhati's resume boasts Ph.D.s in Counseling Psychology and Strategic Management. He has extensive psychology experience as both an academic and a practitioner. Most recently, Bhati was the Director for the Student Counseling Center and Health Services at Zayed University in Abu Dhabi.

Bhati began his presentation with a wellness model that includes mind, body and spirit. From there, his presentation focused on promoting a "culture of wellness" among the student body.

Bhati shared recent national statistics about students seeking counselling services. According to his presentation, demand has increased in recent years. Currently, 72 percent of students nationally experience mental health crises while on college campuses, and 62.2 percent of students experience clinically significant levels of anxiety.

"Maybe the increase is not necessarily a negative thing," Bhati said, referring to the increase in students seeking counselling services. "It's a good thing that people are now becoming more aware, more comfortable accessing services."

Yet he showed that 34 percent of the students who experienced a mental health crisis did not report it. 36 percent cited social stigma as a barrier to accessing their campus's mental health services. Students of color were two times less likely to access them.

Bhati suggested a campus-wide wellness campaign to confront these issues. It would include stress management workshops, trainings for new students and education for faculty and staff to better deal with mental health issues.

"Historically, counselling and health services have tended to be isolated. It's something you access when you have a problem," Bhati said. His wellness campaign would integrate CHWS services with other areas of campus.

"I think wellness promotion is something that CHWS can and should be taking the leadership on, but it is not something that is fully owned by CHWS. It has to be ... leveraged across many different departments," Bhati said.

According to Bhati, the biggest challenges to this kind of wellness programming would be managing demand, budgetary constraints and differing expectations.

"It's important that no one slips through the cracks," Bhati said. "None of this would be possible without adequate staffing and multicultural competence."

Bhati elaborated on why multicultural competence is important: "Mental health is cultural in quite a significant manner ... notions of mental health are culture-specific," Bhati said. He emphasized that practitioners need to "understand what is good mental health in their [patients'] context, and then sensitively be able to help them achieve it in their contextual reality."

"It's about having that clinical skill to work with different realities," he added.

He then advocated for different ways of wellness. "We all have our ways in which we find ourselves soothed. It's important to ... provide space to do those activities."

Puget Sound senior Jack Aldisert, who collaborated with CHWS last year when he was the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS) Junior Senator, acknowledged the amount of experience Bhati would bring to campus: "He seems incredibly qualified."

"His list of priorities ... lined up exactly with what I would want out of a director of CHWS," Aldisert continued.

"I'd especially like to highlight the idea of educating the faculty and staff of the University on responding to mental health crises in particular. I think that a lot of avoidable damage and tragedy occurs because we tend to view mental health as compartmentalized within the wellness center as opposed to something that we should all be educated on."

The Search Advisory Committee's second open session took place on Wednesday, Nov. 14 for Dr. Eric C. Wood. Wood is a licensed professional counselor and psychologist who earned a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of North Texas.

Wood is currently employed at Texas Christian University (TCU) and has been since 2007. He originally was hired as a Staff Psychologist and Outreach Coordinator in 2007, was promoted to Assistant Director in 2011 and was promoted to his current position of Associate Director of Counseling and Mental Health in 2013.

Notable accomplishments Wood has achieved during his time at TCU include coauthoring a \$200,000 donor proposal and receiving the funding to expand the center's services, as well as collaborating with TCU's Inclusiveness & Intercultural Services to provide services to minority and first-generation college students. He has also done extensive work with suicide prevention through outreach and education programs.

Wood presented session attendees with a three-phase student wellness model: prevention, intervention, and post-intervention.

Drawing on his extensive background in campus outreach and programming, Wood believes the first phase in achieving student wellness is bettering relations between the health center and the campus community. According to Wood, aligning with and educating the student body fosters wellness.

With the second phase, intervention, Wood stressed the importance of not only having adequate resources for students on campus but also fostering networks with outside providers in the case of need for further care.

The third phase, post-intervention, holds the purpose of keeping a case from reoccurring and ensuring that the intervention was successful.

Aside from his qualifications, Wood also possesses genuine excitement in the possibility of working at Puget Sound. As he put it, "student affairs is a calling," and it is one that he hopes to continue to pursue here.

Puget Sound senior Kelly Johnson questioned Wood as to why he was drawn to Puget Sound and how he expects to adopt his TCU "large school" practices to our smaller campus. According to their website, TCU has 9,445 students enrolled as undergraduates compared to Puget Sound's 2,413.

In his response, Wood shared his desire for the feeling of community on a campus and a need for collaboration with other offices that he believes can be fulfilled here.

Jack Aldisert brought up the challenge of implementing broad-scale change when one is given limited resources, and asked how this would affect Wood's plan of action. Having faced this problem before at TCU, Wood shared his belief that "if you start small, the program will grow."

He talked about an addiction support group he helped start, and how it began as a small group of people in a room but has since expanded into a larger space and received funding and attention from trustees.

Johnson commented on what they're looking for in the new director: "I'm looking for someone who will be relentless in how they advocate for CHWS and someone who will take CHWS out of the second floor of the S.U.B. and bring it into the campus community."

"Somebody's CV and resume are super important but what speaks to me more isn't necessarily how many articles they have published but the way they interact with the community and the way they communicate and identify areas of weakness and growth," Johnson said.

Johnson also commented on their impression of Eric Wood: "I think Eric was very personable, very engaged. I liked that he comes from such a different background and that he comes from Texas, which can be very different ideologically from our campus, and I think that that brings a lot of incredible opportunities."

"I think our campus can be pretty homogenous in our beliefs and I think it would be really great for us to have someone with different experiences and different focus areas. He seems like he would be able to articulate the needs of CHWS and be a good liaison for different aspects of the administration," Johnson said.

The third and final open session took place on Thursday, Nov. 16 for Dr. Andrew L. Adelman. Adelman is a licensed psychologist. He currently works as the Staff Psychologist and Coordinator of Diversity and Inclusion at the Georgia Institute of Technology's counseling center. Much of his published work focuses on sexual orientation and identity.

Adelman structured his presentation around physical, emotional and social wellness. He opened his presentation by stating his intention to bring intellectual curiosity and openness to CHWS.

When discussing physical wellness, Adelman talked about "the healthy trinity of sleep, diet and exercise." He noted that 80 percent of first-year students nationally do not exercise adequately. "The concept of the freshman 15 is out there; the data actually shows that it's more like the freshman five. Students will gain about five pounds their freshman year of college," Adelman said. He then shared that only 11 percent of college students get

adequate sleep, which is seven to nine hours per night.

Adelman's discussion of emotional wellness focused on stress management and dealing with anxiety and suicidal behavior. He noted that about 85 percent of students nationally feel overwhelmed by all they have to do, and 49 percent experience hopelessness. "Hopelessness is actually the psychological factor that's most correlated with suicidal behavior," Adelman said.

Adelman added that about 80 percent of students nationally never seek services for mental healthcare.

In addressing social wellness, Adelman focused on substance abuse. He shared the statistics that one in four students abuse substances nationally. According to Adelman, about 40 percent of college students are binge drinkers in any two-week period. He also mentioned that daily marijuana use is on the rise at college campuses, as is abuse of amphetamines.

When addressing wellness at CHWS, Adelman described "the three hats one would wear." They are mental healthcare, medical health services and the promotion of wellness.

He outlined promotion of wellness as prevention, stigma reduction, stepped care, both individual and systemic wellness and developing partnerships with "people who are not necessarily healthcare professionals to see themselves as part of a healthcare process."

Adelman also mentioned wellness programming he has done at the Georgia Institute of Technology, which included workshops on white privilege and queer self care.

"There absolutely needs to be a program around white privilege [at Puget Sound]," Adelman said. "But I want to find out from students: is that the conversation that needs to happen?" he continued. He emphasized the importance of finding out from the campus community what kind of programming they need. "I wouldn't come in with an agenda," he said.

When asked about why he wanted to work at Puget Sound, Adelman mentioned his interest in integrated counseling and health services. "[With] my identity as a gay man, I wanted to find a place where I could feel safe ... and find a real shared community," he added.

Johnson agreed that Adelman would fit in on campus. "His ideals reflect a lot of ideals of our campus ... he would do so well here," they said.

Johnson also expressed that Adelman would fit the role of CHWS director well: "He does a really good job encompassing a lot of different perspectives."

"His approach to wellness is very interactive, which I appreciate. Interactive in a way that focuses on outreach and moving CHWS ... into the campus environment. Students don't necessarily always know what they need and what they want, and so making them aware of what is available to them is really important," Johnson said.

Nina Kranzdorf, president of National Alliance on Mental Illness and junior at Puget Sound, shared their perspective on the search for a new director and as a student involved in the process.

"I have been involved in this because I think student voices are a really important part of the process of hiring the new director of CHWS. Our involvement in their decision-making and hiring processes is essential for them to be able to best serve student needs. We need to articulate and advocate for what our needs are — when we do this, CHWS staff members are generally really receptive to working with us," they wrote.

Kranzdorf also commented on their interactions with and opinions of the candidates, sharing that "so far both of the candidates that I have met with, Kuldhir S. Bhati and Eric C. Wood, have been really receptive to meeting with students, hearing our perspectives, answering our questions and asking us about our experiences and roles on campus. We have covered a range of informative and difficult topics during these conversations and both candidates engaged with us on everything we brought up."

"Overall, I have been left with the impression that whoever is hired, they will be excited and willing to hear the perspectives of students and advocate for us in and outside of CHWS. This means that it is critical for students to be showing up in these spaces and talking to the people that are ready to listen to what we want and need out of one of the most important resources on our campus," Kranzdorf said.

"There are excellent candidates out there and Puget Sound has done a superb job of reaching out to recruit a diverse, highly talented and experienced pool of candidates," Marshall said. "I look forward to seeing ways in which CHWS grows in the next few years."

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When does self love become selfish?

By Isaac Sims-Foster

We all deserve to prioritize ourselves. But at what point does that become inconsiderate? Often mislabeled as “entitlement” or “selfishness” by older generations, the concept of self-prioritization is very common among the younger millennials and Gen Zs I’ve met, especially here at Puget Sound. This is also known colloquially as “putting yourself first” or “living your best life.”

The concept pushes the idea that in any emotional, physical or moral dilemma, many people have a tendency to be affected and afflicted by what other people feel and think, and how their choices may affect others.

But in order to live your best life, you should prioritize yourself and make sure your wants and needs are satisfied before those of others. Whether that be in a romantic or platonic relationship, in time management and scheduling between work, school, sleep and study, or asking the waiter for a refill (no matter how hard you think they’ve been working), self-

prioritization says put yourself first.

Let’s suppose there’s a spectrum between selfish and selfless. The extreme selfish person makes every decision in their life, down to the slice of bread they take from the loaf, based on what they want and need at any given moment. The extreme selfless person is so concerned with sacrificing their wants and needs so that others may be satisfied that they might not even have much of a self to care for after a while. Self-prioritization, for the sake of argument, goes directly down the middle.

But at what point, if any, does this concept become hurtful or inconsiderate? When does making sure that you’re totally comfortable and happy in life start to rely on taking that chance from others? When does self-prioritization become the very “selfish” attitude it is professed to avoid?

Before I go any further, I should clarify that I firmly believe in the good that self-prioritization can do. I often find myself more confident, empowered and comfortable when in the mind set that the most important thing to me is me. What prompts this question, however, is how someone’s perception of another’s self-prioritization can be easily warped. In other words, if my self-prioritization is making you feel excluded or ignored, am I obligated to cater more toward your feelings? Or should you ignore me and proceed to put yourself first as well?

In an ideal world, everyone would accommodate one another. There would be no need for protecting yourself and your interests because no one would have the intent to hurt them, but that’s not realistic. In today’s world, and in our society, I believe the best place to fall on this selfless-to-selfish spectrum is just a few ticks to the left of the middle.

It’s important to care and empathize with others, and putting yourself first inherently starts to close that door. Does that mean I want you to bend over backwards and do everything you can to make your friends happy at all times? Absolutely not. That’s not realistic either. But whenever you take action or make a claim, be mindful of how it affects the people you care about (that’s an important specification— I also believe the only people you should worry about hurting are people you have any amount of love for, but that’s another article all together).

Self-prioritization has a tendency to ignore the ways your actions affect others because it is so focused on the self. And just because you’re satisfied doesn’t mean everyone else in the situation is.

I’d like to change the language to emphasize my point: let’s choose self-preservation over self-prioritization. In the same way you preserve food, set aside enough of a good, healthy portion of yourself that you know will remain good and healthy, and then focus on feeling for your friends and loved ones and making them happy. Don’t actively pursue your own satisfaction, but rather always have the best parts of you reinforced and strong so that you can help others preserve themselves.

Sorry, this class is full.

The perils of registration

By Bailey Gamel

It’s the most wonderful time of the year! Classes are wrapping up and much-deserved (and needed) long breaks are rapidly approaching. In the midst of the craziness that the end of the semester brings is one thorn in all of our shoes: registration.

It is no secret that registering for classes is a stressful experience. From registration times to overlapping classes to degree requirements, planning a schedule out takes organization, forethought and sometimes luck.

Obviously, in order to graduate with a certain degree, we have to take specific classes for that degree. This can prove to be challenging. Between limited class offerings to enrollment caps, sometimes getting that class you have to take can be nearly impossible. Something that can influence this is your registration time which is determined by your class standing which is then determined by how many credits you have.

Herein lies a major issue and one I have heard many people discussing in recent weeks. Support for the credit-based registration time makes sense; if you have more credits, you are probably upper-division and therefore have less time to complete your credits. However, is the credit system the most effective system?

Many students come here with AP credits and/or transfer credits from community programs. These students have worked hard to earn these credits, no doubt. However, the disparity that exists under this system cannot be overlooked. For students who did not have the option to earn college credit while in high school, catching up to their peers who did can be extremely difficult or downright impossible. Should a student who did not have access to such credit-boosting classes in high school really be affected by this for all of college?

I am not arguing that we should retire the credit system for getting registration times, but I do think that maybe we should examine it and look for alternatives.

However, more important than the way registration time is decided is the root of the problem: not enough classes and not enough professors. Many classes will only be offered twice in a semester. (Some of the more universal and lower-division classes are, of course, offered in many more sections, but this is not common for most classes.) If one of the limited class offerings does not work with your schedule or is filled up before you register, you will probably not be able to take that class that semester.

Offering more classes requires more faculty. Professors already carry a heavy load with their classes and independent scholarship they produce; it is not fair to ask them to take on more classes than they already do. Having more faculty members means that more classes will be offered and students will more easily be able to fulfill their requirements.

Obviously these suggestions are really easy to throw out there but not nearly as easy to bring to fruition. Bringing more faculty is expensive and difficult. Even with more faculty, there is not the guarantee of the physical space for more class offerings. Despite this, it is clear that something needs to change. Students need to be able to complete their degree requirements.

Another option could be done on the departmental level. Departments that experience a high volume of students each semester could try to work with students to accommodate their schedules. They could offer pre-registration (something that some departments have already begun to do). If all else fails and a student is unable to get into a class they need, the departments ought to work with them to figure out an

alternative.

Not fulfilling requirements puts students at risk of having to take a fifth year or transfer. Neither of these are ideal options. With appropriate measures put into place, we can at least minimize the amount of students who struggle to get into classes they need to take.

When we all chose to go to a small school, we were accepting the possibility that registration might be difficult. A smaller school simply cannot provide the sheer amount of classes that larger schools can. While it is unfortunate that registering is such a difficult task, the amazing faculty and students make it worth it. As this semester draws to a close, best of luck finalizing your schedules, Loggers!

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The Happy Trail is The Trail's weekly sex column that seeks to inform the community on issues related to sexuality and gender by addressing these topics in an education-based way. Our mission is to make the campus a safer place by normalizing and demystifying topics like safer sex practices, sexualities, kinks and polyamory, while shedding light on topics like trans rights, sexual and domestic violence, gender inequalities and intersectionality. Happy Trail correspondents are not medical professionals; if you have a medical concern contact CHWS or a local clinic. Otherwise, direct your sexuality and gender questions to lnkelly@pugetsound.edu. Respond to Happy Trail articles in the form of a letter to the editor sent to trail@pugetsound.edu.

Sexpresso sells: Inside the life of a bikini barista

By Ellen Finn

When I first came to Tacoma to start college at Puget Sound, I saw a small coffee stand in a large parking lot with a sign that read “LadyBug Bikini Espresso Drive Thru.” At first I thought it was just a cute name for a regular coffee drive-thru, but fellow students let me know that the employees do indeed wear only bikinis while they work. I had never heard of such a thing and have always been curious about this business model and the baristas inside that little hut.

Luckily, a Puget Sound student has the inside scoop on working for a Bikini Barista business and was willing to discuss her experience with the Happy Trail.

“LadyBug” is a Puget Sound student who has worked at a Bikini Barista Espresso in Tacoma for almost a year. She requested that for her privacy we use a pseudonym in this article.

LadyBug said that she got started when her old housemate suggested she apply when she needed some extra money. Once she got started, she created an Instagram account to match those of her coworkers at the espresso stand.

She said that her coworker told her how to get more customers using the social media platform while also staying safe: “Come up with an alternative name, never show your face, et cetera,” LadyBug said. “People follow my Instagram from all over the world, so not many come visit. But there are some customers who follow my Instagram and will let me know they’re on their way.”

While she does have some regulars, LadyBug said that she doesn’t treat them differently.

“I have pretty shallow relationships with my customers because I’m not trying to get involved in their personal lives. I

pretty much have the same conversation over and over again.”

LadyBug said that her typical customer is a man in his 30s or 40s by himself. However, solo women, couples and even families come to the stand during her shifts.

“Some people will ask me about school, my interests, things like that,” LadyBug said. “But people ask me inappropriate things all the time. I’m asked at least once a shift by a guy if he can jack off to me.”

LadyBug said that she responds to these requests depending on how she’s feeling. While she said that many of her coworkers permit such things often, she doesn’t let things go that far most of the time.

“I would charge a lot for that to happen. I’m sure I would make more if I offered it at a low price to more people but I’m not comfortable with that,” LadyBug said. “It makes me really uncomfortable because they ask me to look and it is so awkward. It doesn’t feel that great. It is worth it though because I’m getting paid a lot more.”

While technically nudity or being involved in any sexual activity at the stand is prohibited, LadyBug said that many of her coworkers break those rules every shift without reprimand from management.

“There are rules that are written, but nobody follows them,” LadyBug said.

Bikini Barista work is considered by many to be under the umbrella of sex work, and LadyBug generally agrees: “I think that with this job whether or not it’s sex work depends on the individual. I’ve been asked if I do anything outside of work. I’m sure other people are down for that, so there are levels. If you’re being offered more money, maybe some people would go for it. I don’t consider myself a



PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The earliest bikini barista coffee shops opened in Seattle in the early 2000's. This one, The Sweet Spot Cafe, is in Shoreline, Washington.

sex worker, though,” LadyBug said.

While it is up to the individual what they do at their job, LadyBug said that she doesn’t necessarily feel empowered by her work. She prefers her job over a regular barista job because she makes lots of extra tips, but she said that it can get lonely because she will be the only person in the stand for seven to eight hours at a time. Despite her isolation, LadyBug hasn’t felt unsafe during her shifts, although she wouldn’t recommend her job to someone else.

“If someone wanted to make the money I make and didn’t care what they had to do to get it, I guess I would tell them to apply, but I don’t think I’d want to put someone I know in the uncomfortable position that I’m often put in at this job.”

“I think it’s not good for the women who work there. I think it had the potential to be good, to be positive, but it’s not,” LadyBug said. “Part of the reason is

because there are a lot of girls who start working there in high school and just keep working there after high school instead of going to college or getting other jobs. I think in that case [working as a bikini barista] encourages them to not value themselves.”

Additionally, LadyBug said that the work doesn’t foster relationships between the employees because they are always alone. Then again, she doesn’t have to share her tips, so she said that it is a trade-off.

At the end of the day, LadyBug said that working as a bikini barista is pretty similar to working at any other food service job. LadyBug struggles to get time off and gets annoyed at her managers for giving her unwanted shifts, just like any other barista job.

Diving into wet dreams: What happens during nocturnal emission

By Bennett Johnson

Dream you are walking up to the pristine waters of Puget Sound. An orca washes onto the shore and you notice a fully erect penis, simply ready to go.

Welcome back after a long weekend of turkey and family feud! Thank god we can finally get back to fulfilling those sexual fantasies of ours. But first, I snuggle into bed with four imaginative Loggers ready to talk about their fresh wet dreams.

“I feel like I have had some really emotional wet dreams, you can’t even place the person, but maybe they are someone from your everyday life,” a Logger who wishes to remain anonymous said. Her fantasy took place on a fun-loving beach town full of surf, sun and sex. “I was wearing an adorable outfit. A cute pair of underwear with hearts on it. ... So many different people are around and so much is happening. And then you’re just like, ‘Whoa, do I actually have emotional feelings for this person right now?’”

Another Logger thought wet dreams were the manifestation of sexual desire: “I played God in this dream for this orgasm. I hook up with my ex-girlfriend and her ex-girlfriend. They push me down and tell me we are not going to hook up tonight,” he said. He described himself pinned to the cushiony floor. “I love the neck play. I was wearing a choker — there was just a lot happening. Very good time.”

He was laughing as he walked away from our interview.

Up next is a Logger with a gentle soul. “Most of the time [my wet dreams] aren’t specific. They are just like, ‘Oh, you haven’t had sex in nine months.’ Honestly the dreams are like me and her, and we are just wifed,” this charming Logger said. With a deep breath he leaned back and fixed his hair. “It’s interesting though, because in the dream it’s her but a little bit different.”

My last interviewee and I started talking about how people are different in dreams, as this new Logger said. They looked at me dead in the eyes. “People can be very different in dreams. ... My boyfriend turned into a roach. It was disgusting, like from ‘Men In Black.’” This Logger

According to a medically reviewed article on HealthLine.com, “A wet dream is when you ejaculate or secrete vaginal fluids during your sleep. Your genitals are hypersensitive during shut-eye time because there’s more blood flow to the area. So if you’re having a dream that’s turning you on, there’s a chance you’ll orgasm and not know it until you wake up.”

experienced the Wet Nightmare.

“It’s awful. I always come when I’m most afraid,” they said.

I asked for more and they said, “In my dreams I always have a quest or something I need to achieve. I always achieve my goal in the nightmares, or what I want to happen happens. This one time there was an evil red wizard. He lived on the top of the hill we needed to get across. On the other side there was an ocean we would set sail on. We were setting sail when he came for me and locked me in his dungeon.”

They began talking faster. “The dungeon was red-brick and I was chained and he f—ed me. When I came, I woke up; I always wake up.”

According to a medically-reviewed article on HealthLine.com, “A wet dream is when you ejaculate or secrete vaginal fluids during your sleep. Your genitals are hypersensitive during shut-eye time because there’s more blood flow to the area. So if you’re having a dream that’s turning you on, there’s a chance you’ll orgasm and not know it until you wake up.”

The website outlines how sexual active young adults are prone to having wet dreams. The more your body parts think about sex, the more your mind does as well. However, Healthline.com says “sleep orgasms happen more infrequently as you get older. That’s because, unlike during puberty, your hormone levels aren’t out of control.”

Assuming that we have finally gained control over our pubescent hormones, a person’s thoughts control the frequency of their wet dreams. There is no scholarly estimate about the frequency of wet dreams for men and women and, as far as your fellow Loggers are concerned, wet dreams happen. So as you snuggle into bed tonight, prepare to splash in the pool of sexual fantasy.

Abroad View: A view from Belgrade

Abroad View is a recurring column featuring Trail writers studying abroad.

By Zachary Fletcher

I originally had no idea if I wanted to study abroad. From the beginning of my time on campus, study abroad sat at Collins Memorial Library in the form of pictures taken from students around the world on their previous semesters abroad.

Each campus tour, mine included, brought prospective families in front of that wall and showed them the endless possibilities to merge travel and study here at Puget Sound. I got a suggestion from a professor to go somewhere “with conflict.”

One semester later my study abroad endeavors have landed me in Serbia, a country I had little to no knowledge of before embarking on my journey.

Belgrade, the capital of Serbia and my home for the past two months, has just over 1.5 million residents and sits at the heart of the Balkan region.

I live in Dorćol, a district in the northern part of the city with tree-lined streets and a beautiful view of the two rivers that meet at Belgrade’s northwest corner (the Sava and Danube).

The former capital of the former Yugoslavia, Belgrade is a city at the center of the region’s past both mentally and physically. From the nation’s founding in 1918 to its collapse in the late 1990s, Belgrade has housed federal institutions and has been at the heart of the conflict between Serbia and other former member-states of Yugoslavia.

The city is a mix of socialist-era Yugoslavian brutalist architecture and modern skyscrapers that paint the skyline of the city, each being present on any sight-seeing stroll through the city.

One of the biggest things about coming abroad has been the language barrier. While all of my lectures and academics are in English, people in Serbia speak mainly Serbian. Everything from street signs to restaurant menus and the overheard voice on public transportation come at you in words that sound and look (with Cyrillic)



Belgrade, Serbia at night

PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

very foreign.

Each day I’m adding more words to my vocabulary and feeling like a local, enjoying the hrana (food) and saying, “dobar dan” (good day) to people I see on the street.

Yet in these daily interactions and learnings, you can’t escape the reality of the situation: 20 years ago this part of the world was at war. The 1990s in the Balkans were a place of violent conflict, ethnic tension and genocide.

One part of my reflection since being here has centered around the idea of memory and historical relevance. This part of the world experienced the dissolution of an entire nation and a violent war, events that most people I walk next to on the street experienced first-hand.

Talking to and living with people who experienced their country at war, one that included bombings and the rise of nationalist politics, makes me question what I think about peace and how conflicts work to shape societies both in and out of war.

Another part of my reflection lies in the positionality I bring to the table as an American student.

I come from the country that played a large role in the conflict of this region via international intervention. I come from the country that secured the “peace” in one of the former states, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and wrote their constitution. I come from the country who is seen by some as the bomber of Belgrade in 1999.

It’s hard to escape the association with Trump and today’s politics, but what I’ve learned since being here is that history is a living, breathing thing.

My positionality is something I can never escape, but it has made me think about America’s place as the forsaken “bearer of democracy” and what it means to the countries that have been on the opposite end of that mission.

I’ve been able to travel to Kosovo and Bosnia-Herzegovina while I’ve been here, and the former is struggling for

independence while the latter is operating along complex ethno-political lines on a daily basis.

Talking to people here can take on somewhat of a grim tone, as election fraud, state-controlled media and political corruption create a strong sense of disillusionment among the population.

One of the most common questions I get since getting here has been quick and simple: “Why study here?”

I don’t have a good answer to that question when it’s asked. I usually smile and say that I’ve loved living here and can’t believe I get to do it for a couple more months.

But in reality, I came here because I didn’t know anything about this area of the world. Thinking back to my middle and high school classes, there seems to be a giant black hole over the entire Balkan region on my mental history map. Yugoslavia was barely mentioned, if at all, and I was unaware of the atrocities that took place here during my lifetime.

The Balkans are an area of conflict both politically and financially. The recent history and current conditions of the region speak to that point.

But this study abroad semester has given me a new way of thinking about our history. It’s changed the way I think about peace, altered my conception of what conflict is and made me question the normal way I think about international happenings.

One of the most common things you hear in Serbia is “dobro,” translating to good. In everyday conversation it’s used as an affirmation and a word people fall to when there’s nothing else to say.

With all that’s happened here, people here still are dobro. In a region of the world with such a recent and violent past, I’ve never felt such a strong sense of comfort and humanity in a group of people who pride themselves on finding the good in everyday life.

Review of Renee Simms’ short story collection ‘Meet Behind Mars’

By Brynn Svenningsen

“It’s also about education and the fact that I’m a black woman who lives alone with her son,” character Gloria Clark in professor Renee Simms’ titular story from her new book, “Meet Behind Mars,” writes. Simms’ collection shows off the author’s range, from the fantastical and self-referential plot in the opening story to the epistolary style of the final.

After an event in which girls from Jesse’s class vandalized Gloria Clark’s home with a lewd drawing and expletives, mother Gloria Clark files a report made up of phone calls and emails. The vandalism acted as a catalyst for the report, which demonstrates a long-endured experience of racism through micro-aggressive actions at the school her son attends, all while Gloria Clark, a single mother, attempts to provide her son with a better education and life.

“Meet Behind Mars” is contemporary literary fiction told from the perspective of African American characters. Additionally Simms has a recurring focus on female protagonists in her short stories and often writes on their experiences. The wide variety in these experiences serves as

a subtle critique of the media establishment’s long-lasting stereotypes of one-dimensional black and female characters. As a professor who teaches on race and gender in literature and film, Simms’ message comes as no surprise.

In story “American Industrial Physics,” mother Johnetta Green faces struggles similar to character Gloria Clark. As a professor of sociology, Green submits her study on veterinarians working on automotive crash tests. The result is a non-chronological story in which a now successful professor rehashes the emotional trauma she endured as she worked towards financial stability.

Through a crash test with a small monkey, Green shares her discomfort with the practice. While her son detests what she does, she continues in order to earn a living to support both of them. In “American Industrial Physics” and “Meet Behind Mars,” Simms shares a recurring theme with her writing — the interaction between desire and environment.

While both mothers face limitations in their environment — prejudicial ones for Clark and financial ones for Green — they



Professor Simms holds her book

PHOTO CREDIT TO EMMA JONES

ignore these limitations to achieve a better life for their families. Simms’ characters are unique, and the details of their lives reflect this. In all of the 12 stories, a character’s fate can never be counted on.

In a collection of stories where the characters each lead such drastically different lives, it is difficult at first to see the connection. It is then that Simms reveals that each character resides

in an environment that is hardly comforting to them.

The short collection is rich with characters whom the audience may find a connection to. Trevor, the protagonist in “Who Do You Love?” works at a pawn shop and lives a floor below the woman with whom he once had an affair. In “Dive,” Alex describes her rehab for her past drug addiction and her pregnancy that follows

as she travels to the home of her adopted parents. And in “A Body When Buoyant,” Nichelle’s life has been split between a post-hurricane Katrina New Orleans and Los Angeles, and she struggles repeatedly in both.

In each of their environments, Simms creates stories where her characters interact with difficult relationships in equally difficult environments. Some of their choices are less universally understandable. Instead of alienating readers, the discomfort this creates ultimately adds to the emotional depth of the work.

I found Renee Simms’ stories to be heartbreaking, complicated and attention-grabbing. I read the stories over and over and each time found details I had first missed. Simms writes tales that offered me something different than I had ever read before.

Additionally, she seems to ask the reader to do more than to just read. Instead I felt Simms asked her readers to do their best to understand. “Meet Behind Mars” offers a reader a chance to see the desires of characters, both good and bad, as Simms crafts their fate through many twists and turns.

Multidimensional French 391 is introduced to campus, open to non-French speakers

By Mary Salmon



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From left to right: Chimanda Ngozi Adichie, Tsitsi Dangarembga and Assia Djebar, three of the writers featured in French 391

Touching on topics such as feminism and oppression, French 391: African Women Writers will be introduced on campus next semester as a course relating to French studies, African American studies and gender & queer studies.

Taught by French Professor Rokiatou Soumare, French 391 is a multifaceted upper-division course that acts as a Knowledge, Identity and Power (KNOW) fulfillment. With no prerequisite or French language skills required, this class is open to any student interested.

All lectures and discussions will be conducted in English,

sensitize them to the cultural specificity of Western feminist traditions.”

Students in this class will analyze the works of various specific African women writers carefully selected by Professor Soumare.

“I have chosen authors from diverse African countries in order to give students a broad understanding of the challenges African women faced and still encounter today,” she said.

Although new to students next semester, French 391 has actually been shaped and cultivated for multiple years. Professor Soumare has incorporated her own research on both Francophone African women writers and non-Francophone African women writers to create an all-encompassing analytical course beyond that of typical literature courses in the French Studies department.

In developing this course, she felt it was important to expand the curriculum to connect it with significant topics of other departments as well.

“When I joined the French studies department I had in mind that I could add my contribution to courses related to African studies, African American studies and gender studies,” she said.

“French 391 falls at the intersection of gender studies and African studies. Because the class deals with power and gender relations, it fulfills the KNOW requirement. It is always exciting to build bridges with other disciplines; it’s enriching both for students and professors.”

In class, students will study the writers’ “theoretical priorities and cultural positions,” as stated on Puget Sound’s website. They will read and discuss these works to gain an understanding of prevalent experiences and obstacles that African women encounter and communicate through their writing.

“[Students] will learn how African cultures engage gender roles and traditions. They will decipher how female identity

is conceived in African cultures,” Soumare said. “As well, they will have a grasp of the interaction between gender and power. Our discussions will be opportunities for students to reflect on their own views as American students and make comparisons with that of Africans.”

In this way, Professor Soumare stresses the importance of this course in allowing students to broaden their understanding of traditional Francophone literature to a wider scope that is informed by issues faced in African Francophone and non-Francophone literature.

With 18 students currently enrolled for next semester, Professor Soumare has high hopes for French 391’s success on campus and looks forward to being able to regularly offer it to students in years to come.



Professor Soumare, creator and professor of African Women Writers (French 391)

PHOTO CREDIT TO EMMA JONES

as well as all readings and assignments for those students outside of the French major. However, as it is primarily a course offered by the French department, the same readings and assignments must be completed in French for those students within the French major.

“My course explores the discourse of African women writers on today’s most salient issues: feminism, identity, oppression, resistance, religion, (post)colonialism, nationalism, et cetera,” Soumare said.

“It considers the socio-historical and cultural contexts to which women writers respond to help students think critically about the diversity of African societies and

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How Grill Tennis made it across the pond to Puget Sound

By Gabi Marrese

What do you think when you hear Grill Tennis? Maybe you envision someone grilling tennis balls or maybe even playing tennis will grill racks.

According to the about section of the translated GrillTennis Facebook page, “GrillTennis is a ketchup game for two-man teams, where you must try to hit a ball into a cup that is placed in a ball bar. The sport was invented approx. in 2000, but the concept and style were only tightened when the founder and event maker Ole Huld reopened the game in 2013. There are ongoing GrillTennis events - both public and commercial events for companies, tourists, families and other groups. Contact GrillTennis at mail hej@grilltennis.dk and see more at grilltennis.dk.”

How did Grill Tennis make it to Puget Sound all the way from Denmark?

Lars Defty, president of the Grill Tennis Club, stumbled across a tournament while he was in Copenhagen, Denmark this summer.

“I met sporting revolutionary Ole Huld, the creator of Grill Tennis. It is now played professionally in Denmark; they have a summer-long competition called the Glory Cup as well as the Danish Open in the fall,” Defty said.

Defty and his friend Ian took part in the tournament they stumbled upon and managed to win the Finale. They were then invited back by Ole and his team, to compete the next day in one of the official tournaments.

“Despite the intense pressure, we made it to the Finale again, only to be defeated. While it was a tough pill to swallow, so to speak, it was one of the greatest experiences of our entire trip,” Defty said.

Don’t be intimidated by the sports name, because it is a simple game to play.

“One partner (the server) starts on the end line, across from the grill. The other player (the setter) stands on the sideline, roughly halfway between the end line and the grill. The server passes a plastic ball (with a wooden paddle) to their partner and starts running toward the grill. The setter then passes (or sets) the ball back to the server, who then tries to hit the ball into the grill,” Defty said.

In order to win the game the team must score the most points but you also must have class. The professional Grill Tennis plays tend to wear attire similar to that of tennis and lots of stripes. Participants are encouraged to have self expression so some prefer to wear jean shorts, jerseys or even

suits.

For the point side of the game Lars describes the possible ways to earn a point value.

“The grill has a cup (or in Danish, Kopp) inside of it. If the ball goes in the cup (this is called a Bold i Koppen), the team gets 10 points. If the ball simply lands in the grill (a Bold i Grill), the team gets 3 points. If the ball goes in the grill and falls out, or if it hits the side of the grill, the team gets 1 point,” Defty said.

When cheering on a fellow Grill Tennis participant it is customary to snap instead of clap. Clapping is forbidden in this Danish sport. After the new year, try something new like Grill Tennis or maybe even go watch the tournaments and culture for yourself.

“I soon realized that the quiriness of Grill Tennis could be a big hit here at UPS. I will never forget the feeling of scoring my first Bold i Grill and I wanted to share that feeling with others,” Defty said.

The Grill Tennis Club has a tournament every Friday at 4:30 or 5 p.m. in either the Tahoma Room, Thomas Hall or the Tennis Pavilion. For updates about the events, follow the Grill Tennis Instagram account @grilltennispugetsound.



The server is up and on its way to the setter (standing on the end line of the tennis court, right).



The setter has set the ball back to the server and now attempts to get some points.



Player on the right is holding up the Danish flag as the other is balancing the Kopp on their wooden paddle.

Basketball begins its season with new obstacles and goals

By Keely Coxwell

This time of the semester marks the start of the basketball season for the Loggers after months of preparation.

“The beginning of the season is really exciting because we have spent nearly a month going at each other in practice every day, so playing against some new competition is fun,” Josh McMillan ‘21 said.

The Loggers’ first opponent wasn’t until

so far is three and two. After the holiday break the team will start their conference battles.

“From the first few games I think the takeaway is definitely how we need consistency on both the offensive and defensive end,” McMillan said. “When we stick to our defensive principles we can be one of the toughest teams to score on in our

program is built upon.”

“For the rest of the season I’m excited to keep improving and pushing towards our goal of competing for the conference championship,” Roberts said.

On the women’s side of the court, the team started off with few games, which seems to be in their best interest.

“We started the year with so many injuries

understanding of their teammates’ positions, which probably never would have happened without the injuries. I feel blessed to have experienced our early hardships because it has made us stronger and much more versatile.”

The Loggers faced their first three opponents and finished with a non-conference record of two and one.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LOGGERATHLETICS

Nov 8, at Seattle University.

“I’m excited for basketball season to have started, we’ve been practicing for a long time so it’s great to finally start playing some games,” Stellan Roberts ‘20 said.

The men’s team have played five out of their nine anticipated non-conference games so far this season. Their non-conference record

conference.

“Our hard work and focus so far has been paying off. Defensively, we lead the Conference in opponent’s field goal or three point percentage, second in points allowed, first in rebounds, first in blocks and second in rebounding margin. Defense and rebounding are the foundation that this

that at one point we had more players sitting out of practice than participating. But we’re getting healthier and we almost have everyone fully cleared for all basketball activities,” Head coach for the Women’s basketball team, Casey Kushiya, said. “That hardship became a blessing for us because it helped deepen everyone’s



PHOTO COURTESY OF LOGGERATHLETICS

“I’m looking forward to this entire season. I love my players and honestly look forward to every day that I get to spend time with them. I think this team has the makeup to win a Conference Championship this year and we aren’t shy about saying that,” Coach Kushiya said. “This is a team that this school will be proud to cheer for.”

Annual basketball tournament honors alumnus and former athletic director

By Tayla MacPherson

Most Puget Sound students are not aware of the purpose of the name of the McArthur classic. However, Doug McArthur, the tournament’s namesake, is a well-known man throughout the Tacoma community as well as the Puget Sound community. McArthur has been a participant in Pierce County’s athletics since he was a high school student until now.

McArthur attended Puget Sound and was a sports writer for *The Trail* and student-athlete for the baseball team.

Since then, he has influenced the community in several ways. Current Puget Sound athletic director and friend of McArthur Amy Hackett describes how he has influenced the community: “He is very much engaged in the Tacoma community. He helped raise money for TAC, which provides aid for youth programs or high schools. He is also on the Tacoma metro parks board. In the next couple months, there are going to be ball fields that will be named after Doug through the Tacoma metro parks.”

Other than being a sports writer during McArthur’s time as a student, he was also mentioned in *The Trail* numerous times for being the athletic director and publicity chief. In 1955 Frank Ron mentioned McArthur in an article regarding a baseball game while discussing available knowledge on players: “It so happened that CPS’s publicity chief, Doug McArthur was stationed at a nearby fort.” “CPS” stands for “College of Puget Sound,” the

school’s name at that time.

In 1969 McArthur became the Puget Sound athletic director and served for

and helped with a lot of success. He also understood the need to engage the greater Tacoma community.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF LOGGER ATHLETICS

many years. Hackett spoke highly about McArthur as an athletic director and the impact he made on the school: “He was here during a very important era of time and for the green and gold era. He was here when the basketball team won the national championship. He was the first fast pitch women’s softball head coach. He brought a new level of organization

The McArthur classic was named after McArthur in 2012, 6 years ago. This year’s classic was a little different because Pacific Lutheran University hosted their own games and one of the women’s teams dropped out of the tournament. This meant the Puget Sound women’s team only competed in one game, whereas the men competed in two.

Senior captain of the women’s basketball team and Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC) copresident Elizabeth Prewitt describes the game against Trinity University: “The game against Trinity was a good test for this team. Even though it was a tough loss, it showed a lot of promise for this team. It is still very early in the season and to see how close we were to beating a solid Trinity team showed us just how slim the margins are and that we are right there.”

At halftime, the Loggers were up by three points, outplaying Trinity. The final score of the women’s game was 57-55. Prewitt scored the most points for the Loggers with 16 and Raeann Allen had eight rebounds.

The men’s team competed in two games against Old Westbury (New York) and Sul Ross St. (Texas). The men beat Old Westbury in overtime 101-100 and lost to Sul Ross St. 86-77. Jimmy Wohrer scored his 1,000th point during the Old Westbury game and 24 points total.

McArthur attended all three games and was honored. Prewitt describes the influence McArthur’s presence has: “As a SAAC president, having this tournament in honor of Doug McArthur is a great reminder for myself and others about the importance of legacies and what it truly means to leave a lasting impression on your community.”

McArthur will continue to influence the players and students at Puget Sound and others within the Tacoma community.

A closer look into the operations of the athletics and aquatics center

By Sam Watters

A lot of Puget Sound students see the Memorial Fieldhouse & Pamplin Sports Center as the spot on campus to lift weights and run on the treadmills. What so many people don’t realize is that the gym plays host to a huge list of extra activities that happen year round.

First, though, the history of the school’s athletics center should be realized and appreciated by all students and faculty. Puget Sound Board of Trustees member from 1990 to 1993 Robert B. Pamplin, Jr.’s donation in 1994 allowed the school to add the Pamplin Sports Center, alongside the Memorial Fieldhouse, which houses the basketball gym. According to the University of Puget Sound website, “Memorial Fieldhouse, completed in 1949, was dedicated to all the brave men and women who had fallen while defending their country during World War II.”

Donations were the biggest contributor to all the athletic opportunities given to the University of Puget Sound, and the increasing number of students that use the gym for all its offerings is something that Hackett and all other athletic faculty members hope to see continue in the next semester and years to come.

The list of extra activities any student can participate in is a long one. While club sports having huge numbers on campus, other sports such as racquetball, floor soccer and badminton are just as available to students who show interest, whether it’s at an introductory level or a competitive one.

Director of Athletics Amy Hackett said that anytime a varsity sport or class is not occupying gym space, open activities can take place. Hackett, who facilitates all varsity

sports teams during their respective seasons, mentioned that sports teams each use the main gym even when it is outside of their regular season.

“The main gym plays host to a number of events in addition to sport events,” Hackett said. “Staff Professional



PHOTO CREDIT TO AUGUSTA GRASSL

development, Race & Pedagogy, Reunion Weekend, Flea Market, Luau, Commencement, Orientation, sometimes concerts and a couple of community events as well as summer conferences and camps.”

If you’re looking for a simple workout session in the gym, great! If you want to play pickup basketball games with a team of friends, you have that ability! What it comes down to is the outreach the gym has to all students, no matter their athletic ability/desire. More students need to realize that the gym and athletic centers are open to anyone who wishes to use them for any purpose.

The fact that all students have access to the gym is a privilege that one should appreciate, aside from one’s interest or ability to use what the gym has to offer.

The list of extra activities the Memorial Fieldhouse & Pamplin Sports Center give to all students is one that has several unique sports that anyone can participate in and gives students a fun break from studying as well as opportunities to work out at anytime.

For example, if you are looking to start climbing, free shoes and harnesses are available during orientation hours. Orientation hours are Tuesdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. The climbing wall is closed Mondays from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. for wall resets and Wednesdays from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. for climbing class. For more questions or information, there is a Puget Sound Climbing Wall Facebook page.

Weekly schedules for the fitness center, swimming pool, tennis pavilion, and gym are posted on the Logger Athletics website. Navigating the website can be tricky so go to the “Inside Athletics” tab and click on “Facilities.” When looking at the page there will be hyperlinked text in all caps, under the title “Athletic Facilities.”



PHOTO CREDIT TO AUGUSTA GRASSL

Above: The entrance to the gym, Memorial Fieldhouse, in the Athletics and Aquatics Center.

Left: A view from the top of the bleachers looking down at Wallace Pool.

Right: The climbing wall located on the right hand side of the hallway when entering the Tennis Pavilion



PHOTO CREDIT TO AUGUSTA GRASSL

Combat Zone is *The Trail's* satire section.

The Combat Zone is intended to be a satirical work. The views and opinions expressed by the Combat Zone do not necessarily reflect those of The Puget Sound Trail, ASUPS, concerned parties or the University of Puget Sound. Please submit compliments or complaints in the form of letters to the editor.

This week, we're highlighting YOUR stories!

Take a moment out of your "busy," screen-oriented life to learn a bit about your fellow Puget Sound students.

After all, once you are a Logger, legend says, you are always a Logger.

But, you know, Logger with a capital L. Because physical labor is, you know, gross.

Dear journal, or whatever,

BY GUEST COLUMNIST PRESLEY CLOONEY

This week blew. On Monday my girlfriend Jazmine only did half the laundry I told her to do. Also, she only listened to me vent for three hours before saying that she needed to "read" for "class." Usually she listens for five or six hours a day. She must be PMSing. Periods are just so hard for men to handle. I didn't make it to my 11 a.m. the next morning because I was so tired after playing 2k with Brian until 4 a.m. I've only missed that class eight times this semester, so it's fine. The bad part was that my professor emailed me saying that I still had to turn in the assignment that was due during class. Dude. Chill.

When I got out of bed, I had some Cheez-Its, which I usually like, but there were only three left and they were stale. Someone was talking to me about food desserts recently — and even though I zoned out while they were explaining, I'm pretty sure an example is my pantry when Jazmine forgets to buy my groceries three times a week. Anyway, because there was no food in the house I took a Lime scooter to the S.U.B. I drank two Core Powers cause I'm trying to bulk up before golf season. Where are we at now? Tuesday.

Tuesday was the worst of this whole week. I got up, shotgunned a Monster and drove my Jeep to class. This girl raised her hand and answered a question. The way she raised her hand was super wack. She had her little and ring finger down, and her thumb, pointer and middle finger up. She didn't wait for the teacher to call on her. She just threw her hand in the air and started talking. She didn't even say, "Hey, I know that this might not exactly be the interpretation of the text, and I could be wrong, and maybe other people have analyzed this using a different lens, but..." she just started talking. Honestly, she appropriated my culture (just learned about cultural appropriation in class — finally understand what it means). I was especially, like, pissed because I had done three of the 70 pages of the reading that day and she made a comment that I was about to make. Don't worry, I still made the same comment after her. On top of that my teacher, Laura ... excuse me, "Doctor Smith" (she's really touchy about her name and has corrected me about it like 10 times), pulled me aside at the end of class and screamed at me for being 15 minutes late. These females need to calm. Down. They all must be on the same cycle. After that chick talked for the entire class and Laura yelled at me (like dude, you're not my [expletive] mom) my flip flop got caught under the door on the way out. Bruh.

Also, this week has been [expletive] because everything is so hard for men right now. I've talked with a lot of my buddies and we all agree. From my perspective, me and Jazmine have an open relationship, but I've never discussed it with her. So, when I'm out and I see a hot girl, I don't know if I can tell her if her butt looks good. How's a guy supposed to tell women when he's into them? I feel like there's no opportunity to finesse anymore. If females could just grow a pair.

Whatever. Jazmine told me something about "self care" recently so I guess I'll host a beer-pong tournament to get over this exhausting week. Thank God it's almost Saturday, since the boys still have one thing to claim as our own.

Presley

Why do you Puget Sound?



As students at the University of Puget Sound, there's one thing we all have in common: we're students at the University of Puget Sound. But why? This week, The Flail asked people from all walks of campus life why they chose to come here.

"I just wanted a comfortable place to quietly wait for my privilege to blossom," junior McKendra Bradloy, and hundreds of other respondents, said.

"I saw it in a dream, and I have a lot of money," sophomore Britt Brickman said.

When asked why he Puget Sounds, first-year Eric Willman donned a sheepish smile. "Um ... how do I say this ... the student body is over 60 percent female. Am I allowed to say that on here?" Willman said.

Administration employee Brenda Billows gave an insider's take: "I love working at the University of Puget Sound. Whenever a student comes to me for help, I just redirect them to Cindy Hedolan. That's all I do. It's so easy," Billows winked. "Let's just say, Cindy Hedolan works on the fifth floor of Jones."



Britt Brickman, a campus tour guide, often tells prospective students about the dream and the money that got him here.

"There's this screen in the lobby of Jones Hall," first-year Lindy Viptipperman said. "Have you seen it? It shows photos from campus ... green, green lawns, laughing smiling faces, lovers embracing by the fountain. That monitor is the reason I'm here."

"When I chose University of Puget Sound, to be honest, it was sort of a whim," senior Luar Metts said. "But, in my four years here, I think I've come to understand how this came to be home. Those monogrammed blankets at the bookstore? Pretty nice."

"I've never been challenged and I'm not going to start now," first-year Alice Brookbank said.

First-year Yelmo Yellow had a more entrepreneurial approach.

"I had this idea a few years back: people love green, but they don't want to bother with grass. Too messy, too unpredictable, yada yada, no one's got the time anymore. But imagine this: suppose, for a reasonable price, you could just buy pictures of green, green grass? No hassle, all the color? I have a feeling this business is going to be booming, baby," Yellow said. "I've had the idea for years. Now ... I've got the grass."

"My grandma was really brave, a big risk taker," junior Alisonson Burgson said. "Yeah, like anyone, I lose my way sometimes. But I just think about Grandma Rosie ... and then I know who I am, and where I'm going."

"I'm a medium fish in a small pond and I'm feeling fine," senior Gern Blasten said.

"This school was plan C," local celebrity Tallia Tapps said.

Sophomore University Ofpuget had a more personal connection.

"Yeah, first name University, last name Ofpuget. Growing up, I got teased for my name a lot. My older sister Riverbed bullied me mercilessly. But I always had this feeling that it meant something more. When I saw this school's name on a poster ... I just knew. I never considered anywhere else," Ofpuget said.



University Ofpuget, in a rare quiet moment, enjoying a Diversions drink.

"I came to Puget Sound because of the small class size — it's really great to have so much access to my professors. I also knew I wanted to have a smaller campus community, and a lot of access to the outdoors, and Puget Sound has all of that," senior Dennis Snook said.



Arena and Sandy Ailers, twins whose application fees were waived and "didn't get in anywhere else."

"My dad said I had to go to college before coming to work at his company," junior Wyatt Burtle said. "And ... well, I don't know if I'm allowed to say this ... but, you know, the student body is over 60 percent female."

When asked why she Puget Sounds, fifth-year senior Debbie Anslow got a distant look in her eyes.

"I feel that I left something here in a past life. Something precious to me ... something forgotten. I think I will find it soon," Anslow said.

"I like all the bricks. Hogwarts!" sophomore Madeline Iwren said.

"Everyone in my family went to Ivy Leagues, but I'm ... something of a black sheep. I've always kind of done things my own way. It took a lot of courage for me to go to University of Puget Sound instead of Yale. But I didn't become Derrick Downwright by doing the predictable thing," senior Derrick Downright said.

"The acoustics in the south Jones stairwell are excellent," Reuben Studdard said.

Public Art for Public Action showcases new projects in the Tacoma Mall neighborhood

By Carlisle Huntington

The Tacoma Mall neighborhood is an “art desert,” meaning that there is little to no public or private funding for the arts there, making artistic engagement less accessible for the community as a whole. However, the City of Tacoma Office of Art and Cultural Vitality sought to change that with the Public Art and Public Action Program.

“The Public Art Public Action Fund is a context-based training and project series designed for artists who are interested in working on socially engaged projects in the Tacoma Mall Neighborhood,” lead artist and mentor Ryan Feddersen said.

“We invited 12 artists to participate. It began with a two-day training session where we invited both content experts in the field as well as a variety of artists to come and talk about their practice of engaging communities and creating works that are intended to be addressing social issues.”

The 12 selected artists, whose backgrounds varied from full-time artists to small business owners to students and educators alike, would then propose their own community art projects to be funded by the City of Tacoma through the National Endowment for the Arts.

On Saturday, Nov. 17 at the Asia Pacific Cultural Center, each artist received the opportunity to share their work in the form of individual presentations, during which they provided an overview of their project concept and goal as well as the final results. What transpired was a series of creative projects that sought to enrich the Tacoma Mall Community.

While there was an astonishing amount of variety between projects, what all the artists had in common was a methodology that sought to utilize art to make a material difference in the lives of Tacoma Mall Neighborhood residents. Program participant Maria Jost spoke to the ways in which this grassroots approach was central to the ethos of the program.

“I think the best part about the whole experience for me was that they provided really interesting training and examples of how to move from just making artwork to making artwork that is engaged

with community and that supports the community in ways other than strictly beautification.”

Indeed, most of the projects, in addition to producing beautiful works of art, also addressed material needs of the Tacoma Mall community. Jost’s own project, for example, consisted of the production and distribution to what she called “Brain Amulets” in order to spread awareness of preventative mental-health practices in the Tacoma Mall Community.

Jost’s amulets took the form of three-

also reflect the community’s diverse cultural background. He did this by inviting members of the community from different cultural groups to paint the bench. What resulted was a piece that included phrases in Korean, Spanish, English, Samoan and local Puyallup references, creating a physical manifestation of all the cultures that make up the community.

Other projects took a more subtle approach. Nori Kimura’s project entitled “Complete the Circle,” consisted of temporary art installations across eight

energies.”

While Kimaru and Sinea’s projects took a more anonymous approach, other artists engaged the community more directly, effectively making them a part of the art itself. Terese Cuff along with Gwen Jones and Joel Cuplin, for example, both made “sound collages,” layering audio clips of interviews with community members over music and sounds of the city.

For Cuff’s project, these clips consisted of community members reflecting on their experiences with the Tacoma bus system, highlighting how something as mundane as public transit can serve as a rich reservoir of human connection. Jones and Cuplin, on the other hand, collected individual reflections on the Pledge of Allegiance, a project that sought to bring people back to our nation’s ideals during a time of increasing cynicism and disillusionment.

Despite their many differences, what united all of the artists was a commitment to spreading awareness, whether it be to a particular issue, such as mental health or environmentalism, or simply an awareness of one another. Artist Nofo Porter, for example, collaborated with senior citizens to spread awareness of the importance of family ties and the value of maintaining connections between generations.

Other artists simply wanted to draw people’s attention to the physical space they were in. Robert Sanchez, for example, designed a banner for the community of Lincoln Heights in order to foster a sense of community identity in a part of Tacoma that he felt often went overlooked. “I grew up in a really small town,” Sanchez said, “Like kind of a hole-in-the-wall place that you drove by to get somewhere else. ... That’s what Lincoln Heights is like.”

Sanchez’s project, like all of the projects presented that night, was a prime example of how community art can not only bring people together physically, but mentally and emotionally as well. Public art stops us in our tracks, interrupts the monotony of our hectic lives and makes us aware that we are here. Though this heightened awareness might seem like a small feat, its impact is immeasurable, and no community should be without it.

Despite their many differences, what united all of the artists was a commitment to spreading awareness, whether it be to a particular issue, such as mental health or environmentalism, or simply an awareness of one another.

by-three miniature art prints of a larger, traditional, brain-inspired watercolor illustration with a short list of preventative mental-health practices printed on the reverse side. These amulets were then distributed to Tacoma Mall residents, either by Jost herself or local businesses and organizations.

The hope, Jost said, was that the art could serve as a reminder for individuals to “practice neuroscience-based activities that have been shown by research to strengthen and protect brain structures.”

Another artist whose project also took a more functional approach was Alexander Schelhammer, who built a bench for the Tacoma Mall Neighborhood community garden. “You have a beautiful garden space,” Schelhammer said, “but nowhere to sit back, relax, look at the garden and take a load off.”

So Schelhammer took it upon himself to create an art piece that, in addition to providing a much-needed function, would

different local bus stops and transit centers. At each bus stop, Kimura spray-painted a different animal footprint along with a message that read “join us at the Tacoma Mall Transit Center.” There, the eight animal prints were arranged in a circle with a place left for humans to stand and “complete” the installation themselves.

“My focus for the art was trying to bring nature and people together,” Kimura explained. Since the Tacoma Mall Neighborhood is located in one of the more industrial parts of the city, Kimaru wanted his piece to serve as a reminder that “it’s not only humans that are living here, but other creatures as well.”

Similarly, Francesca Sinea’s project also utilized art to increase community mindfulness. Sinea sought to embellish the seven intersections on the South 38th Street corridor with a specific color and sacred geometry pattern. Her goal was to see if the sacred geometry patterns could “connect people and organize chaotic

Curtain Call Cabaret hosts a night of musical theater

By Keara Wood

Curtain Call’s Fall-ing Out Cabaret was a night of musical theater fun.

On Saturday, Nov. 17, the University of Puget Sound’s very own Curtain Call put on their biannual Curtain Call Cabaret, an informal show organized and put on almost entirely by students.

Curtain Call organizes one cabaret each semester. Each show consists of roughly 15 mini performances of individual scenes from various musicals ranging from “Les Miserables” to “Chicago.” For the most part, each scene is directed and performed by University of Puget Sound students and features students managing the lights, sound and piano accompaniment.

“The idea is that we take a bunch of different songs from a bunch of different musicals and put them all together on one night for one show, cabaret style,” Sabrina Close ‘19, president of Curtain Call, said.

This year’s show boasted 14 scenes from 13 different musicals spanning a variety of genres. The show kicked off with the iconically triumphant number “Do You Hear the People Sing?” from the emotional “Les Miserables” and ended on a completely different note with “Totally F—d” from “Spring Awakening.”

Each scene featured anywhere from two to 10 actors, including Curtain Call

President Close, who stated that the role of president was mainly coordinating events and rehearsals and reserving stage space.

“The biggest role that I do is when it comes down to the show and having show time is organizing everyone’s schedules,” Close said.

“I am also a director because everyone gets to kind of do everything, which is really fun,” she added. One special thing about Curtain Call is that everyone gets to try their hand at every aspect of musical theatre, from performing to directing, meaning people could be acting in multiple scenes while also directing others.

“Our goal is really just to get people all of the experience that they want so they can experience directing, they can experience acting, they could be singing, they could be on a stage for the first time in their life,” Close said.

The simple set, which Close described as “black-box style,” consisted of all black walls, black floors and very minimal props such as a chair or a table here and there.

“Your imagination kind of has to fill in the rest of the pieces, but what we can’t fill with physical props, we use a lot of lighting,” Close said. “Essentially to set the stage, we have the bare minimum and then lights, and some of the lights get really really cool

and technical,” she said.

The lighting was dramatic and helped to direct the audience’s attention where it needed to be. It was used to focus in on specific people and block out the rest of the stage or actors, while adding to the intended atmosphere of each scene as well.

Each scene was emotionally potent and beautifully executed. In the span of about an hour, the members of Curtain Call managed to capture an incredible range of emotion, from the sorrow and determination of Jean Valjean to the sassy humor of Shrek and Fiona.



PHOTO CREDIT TO ALECDIONNE

Pictured: Puget Sound Students performing in Curtain Call.

‘Pump It!’: RDG Fall 2018 showcases wide variety of dance styles

By Evan Welsh

This past Friday and Saturday’s performance by the Repertory Dance Group (RDG) at Wilson High School featured a wide array of dance styles and a skew towards more modern music. Those factors led to yet another great iteration of one of Puget Sound’s favorite end-of-semester events. This semester’s theme was “Pump It!” — a worthy title for a wonderfully lively performance that saw the huge group of choreographers and performers elevate themselves.

The size of the venue was one of the biggest changes in this year’s performance, since it was changed back to Wilson High School after a few years at Mt. Tahoma High School. While Wilson is

a much higher-capacity venue, the added space took away some of the impact and intimacy offered at Mt. Tahoma. Despite this change, the quality of the RDG performers and choreographers was just as good as ever, if not even a little better.

With such a variety of dance styles, there have been, in the past, what feels like lulls in RDG shows where the musical choices and dance styles quickly shift from large-scale and modern to more stripped-down and classical. Of course, this isn’t a bad thing, but it can make the show feel less cohesive and slightly unbalanced. However, this semester’s RDG found a way to even out the night, adding dancers and faster tunes to the styles of dance that



PHOTO CREDIT TO KATHERINE KESSLER

Pictured: Members of RDG performing at Wilson High School



PHOTO CREDIT TO KATHERINE KESSLER

Pictured: Puget Sound students dancing at Wilson High School

fall outside the contemporary sphere that most of RDG’s choreographers operate within. This made for a show that felt uniform throughout its entire runtime — each performance felt spirited, important and passionate.

The show, as always was divided into two halves. While the first half of Saturday night’s performance was enjoyable, the audience felt a little aloof, possibly feeling the distance created by the larger auditorium. Fortunately, the crowd livened up after the intermission, which fed the performers in the show’s second half and upped the experience on the whole night.

RDG was an excellent way to usher in the final weeks of the semester. Without fail, RDG brings together the Puget Sound community like no other student performance. Once a semester, students, faculty and parents all come together in large numbers to celebrate the creativity and talent of the community and to be entertained. More importantly than the community building happening within the audience, RDG offers a lovely space to watch a huge contingent of the student population, over 170 of our best friends and peers, get on stage to express themselves through the art of dance.

Jazz combo groups bring their talent to the Museum of Glass

By Arielle Harvey

The sound of musical notes could be heard throughout Tacoma’s Museum of Glass on Sunday afternoon. A group of jittery musicians warmed up their instruments in front of a wall of hanging glass sculptures.

The musicians are part of University of Puget Sound’s jazz combo groups, which typically perform twice per semester in the Rotunda at the Wheelock Student Center. However, on Sunday, Nov. 18, the ensemble performed for the Tacoma community at the Museum of Glass from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

While the performers may have seemed bashful during their warm up, once they began their set of bold and slinky jazz renditions, they exuded playful confidence. They laughed and joked between songs and beamed at the audience of students, friends and curious onlookers.

The infectious energy of the musicians was not lost on the audience, who remained hooked throughout the two and a half hour concert.

“They’re usually sold out,” jazz orchestra director Tracy Knoop said of the jazz concerts. “It’s the highest-drawing



PHOTO CREDIT TO ROWAN SEGURA

Pictured: Puget Sound students performing jazz at the Museum of Glass in Downtown Tacoma

performing group for the past couple of years on campus and I think part of that is because ... they can see them interacting and enjoying themselves.”

What makes the jazz band seem so close and cohesive is their ability to communicate

with one another. After every solo the group would congratulate and cheer for each other.

“I just think the sheer nature of improvisation is considered a musical conversation. It relies on close-knit communication

and trust — the same thing that all families rely on,” Knoop said.

Using the word “family” to describe the group of talented student musicians is not an exaggeration. However, this spirited environment was not always the reality for the jazz

band.

“When I first got to UPS it was not happening and the band was barely alive so we’re trying hard on building that kind of culture and with that said, high musical demands also,” Knoop said.

The demand for musical excellence was apparent in the quality of the performances at the Museum of Glass. The group handled an array of different musical sounds and included improvised solos from each member of the combo.

The Museum of Glass was the perfect location for the lazy Sunday afternoon. Audience members could explore the exhibits and see glass being blown in the hot room before or after the program.

Luckily, performing off campus at a unique venue is part of the future plan for the combo group. “I promise you, we will be out in the community somewhere probably more than once next semester,” Knoop said. With a combination of great music and a friendly and supportive atmosphere, the Jazz/Glass concert was well worth attending.